

Mr. P. V. Raphael (*Joint Secretary to Government*): The President has ruled that it does not arise.

Mr. President: You wanted information about the number of suits. You are now passing on to the policy of Government with regard to *verumpattamdars*.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): The number of suits indicates to the Government that there is an urgent necessity to give some security of tenure to the *verumpattamdars*.

Mr. President: You want the impression of Government at question time?

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): I want to know whether there was a Bill sponsored by Government with regard to permanency of tenure to *verumpattamdars*.

Mr. P. V. Raphael (*Joint Secretary to Government*): All these are extraneous to this question.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): I press that this may be printed.

Mr. P. V. Raphael (*Joint Secretary to Government*): Yes.

COCHIN CHRONICLE—REFUND OF SUBSCRIPTION TO GOVERNMENT

137. **Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon** (*Narakkal*): Will Government be pleased to state.—

- (a) (1) whether a weekly journal called the "Cochin Chronicle" was published in the State some years ago; (2) if so, by whom and for how long a period;
- (b) whether Government had subscribed for this journal; if so, for how many copies and for what period was the subscription paid;
- (c) what was the amount of subscription paid;
- (d) was the journal published for the full period for which subscription was paid; if not, what is the amount of subscription for the unexpired period;
- (e) did the Government obtain a refund of the subscription for the unexpired period; if so, when was the refund obtained; if not, why was a refund not obtained?

Mr. P. V. Raphael (*Joint Secretary to Government*)

(a) (1) Yes.

- (2) By Mr. K. V. Menon from 3—10—1936 to 24—4—1937 and by Mr. K. Sankarankutty Menon from 1—5—1937 to 16—10—1937.
- (b) Government were subscribing for 2 copies of the journal for the Publicity Office during the period from 7—5—1937 to 16—10—1937.
- (c) Rs. 4.
- (d) No.
- (e) The shortest period for which subscription was payable was 3 months. Accordingly, fraction of 3 months was treated as full 3 months.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon (Narakkal): My question is whether the Government have subscribed for this journal. Am I to take it that Government had subscribed only for two copies?

Mr. P. V. Raphael (Joint Secretary to Government): It is stated that Government have been subscribing for the Huzur Secretariat only for two copies. That is how the question was understood and answered.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon (Narakkal): During the period from 7th May 1937 to 16th October 1937 that is to say 5 months and 9 days, am I to take it that the subscription was paid for 6 months or for one year?

Mr. P. V. Raphael (Joint Secretary to Government): Yes, it was paid for 6 months.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon (Narakkal): The subscription per annum was Rs. 4!

Mr. P. V. Raphael (Joint Secretary to Government): Yes. For one copy it was Rs. 4 per year.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി: എന്താണ് ഈ പത്രം നിർത്തിക്കൊടുത്തത് വരിസംഖ്യ കൊടുക്കാത്തതിനാലോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. വി. രാമേശ്വർ: അതു ചോദിച്ചുവേണം പറയാൻ.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി: ഗവണ്മെന്റിൽനിന്നു വീണെയും സബ് സ്ക്രിപ്ഷൻ ചെയ്യുകയുണ്ടായോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. വി. രാമേശ്വർ: ഇല്ല; പത്രമുണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി: വരിസംഖ്യകൊടുത്ത കാലത്തേക്കു പത്രം കിട്ടിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. വി. രാമേശ്വർ: കറച്ചു പോരായ്മ വന്നിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു പറഞ്ഞല്ലോ.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon (Narakkal): Do the Government subscribe for any department other than the Huzur Secretariat?

Mr. P. V. Raphael (*Joint Secretary to Government*): I think they have been subscribing for some other departments. I can't exactly say which. I want notice for that.

മിസ്റ്റർ. പി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി: വേറെ വല്ല ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽനിന്നും ഈ പത്രത്തിനു വരിസംഖ്യ കൊടുക്കുകയുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. വി. റാഫേൽ: നോട്ടീസ് വേണം.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon (*Narakkal*): With reference to answer to (e)—“The shortest period for which subscription was payable was 3 months. Accordingly, fraction of 3 months was treated as full 3 months”—is that the case with other newspapers?

Mr. P. V. Raphael (*Joint Secretary to Government*): I want notice for it.

PUBLICITY OFFICER—DUTIES OF

138. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Will Government be pleased to state.—

- (a) whether the Publicity Officer keeps a diary of the work he is doing;
- (b) what is his present work;
- (c) how many files he has handled or dealt with in the month of Edavam 1116;
- (d) whether he has sufficient work at present;
- (e) whether the Government are contemplating the abolition of that post?

Mr. P. V. Raphael (*Joint Secretary to Government*):

- (a) No.
- (b) Some of the important duties which the Publicity Officer has to discharge are mentioned in the Press Communique, dated 20th April 1937, published in the Government Gazette, dated 24th April 1937. It is the practice with the Secretariat, moreover, to consult the Publicity Officer and ascertain his views on all matters relating to newspapers and publicity both inside and outside the State. Besides, since the outbreak of the present European War, he has been functioning as Censor and Press Adviser for the State.
- (c) During the month of Edavam 1116 he has brought to the notice of Government as well as of the heads of departments 188 newspaper cuttings relating to